OKLAHOMA NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH LANGUAGE FAIR

Spoken Poetry

Category Description and Guidelines

Students recite poetry in Native languages. Poems can be original works or selected pieces written or translated by others. Poetry emphasizes symbolism, imagery and word selection with poetic devices in Native languages. Students recite poems with emphasis and feeling; pauses in poetry give students a chance to practice public speaking even without fluency. Only one performance per student is allowed.

Category	Age Ranges				Size		Award		
	P-2	3-5	6-8	9-12	Group	Individual	Trophy	Ribbon	Medal
Spoken Poetry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

- This is a live category. You must be pre-registered and present to perform and to receive awards.

DO

✓ Pre-register online
✓ Focus on *Native language use*
✓ Keep a five-minute time limit (plus two minutes for set-up and exiting the stage)
✓ Use props, costumes, and Native regalia

DON'T

✗ Use scripts, notes or cheat sheets
✗ Speak in English
✗ Have teachers on stage, except Pre-K and K
✗ Use food, animals or organic materials (grass, bark, leaves) in the performance

Judging Performances

A panel of at least three elders, Native language teachers and/or Native speakers will judge performances on these criteria:

- The amount and inspiring use of Native language
- Presentation and poise of performance
- Ease and comfort of language use
- Spirit of performance

Notes

- You must pre-register to receive t-shirts and awards. Please do so as early as possible.
- Limited rehearsal space is available. This space is shared with other groups.
- Contact us if you're concerned about whether your props and regalia count as "organic."
- Group sizes and performance venues are subject to change based on registered entries.
- Students performing in multiple categories may experience scheduling conflicts. We try to avoid this, but help us out and let us know if you see a potential problem.
- Questions? Comments? Help? Contact us at **onaylf.samnoblemuseum@ou.edu** or at (405) 325-7588.